

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 06997 01 OF 02 131052Z

11
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 /013 W
----- 085775
R 130740Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 6997

FOR NEA/RA AND IO/OIC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CENTO, AORG, ABUD
SUBJECT: REVISION OF CENTO SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES

1. THE CENTO SECRETARIAT HAS REQUESTED THAT THE CENTO SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE BE INCREASED. IN PRESENTING THIS REQUEST, THE SECRETARIAT OFFERS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF ITS POSITION (BAC/76/D7-REVISION NO. 1):

A. TL RATES OF CENTO SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE ARE AUTHORIZED BY SECTION A OF APPENDIX VIII OF CENTO STAFF REGULATIONS. THE RATES FOR TURKEY WERE LAST REVISED WITH EFFECT FROM MARCH 31, 1974. THOSE FOR PAKISTAN WERE LAST REVISED WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 1971. RATES FOR ALL OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED SINCE 1970.

B. HOTEL AND RESTAURANT PRICES HAVE INCREASED CONSIDERABLY IN ALL COUNTRIES AND CENTO RATES FOR ALL COUNTRIES NEED REVISION. CURRENT CENTO RATES ARE COMPARED WITH CERTAIN MEMBER GOVERNMENT RATES BELOW:

CENTO	U.K.	U.S.A.
(IN POUNDS)	(IN POUNDS)	(IN POUNDS)

SECRETARY GENERAL			
(EVERYWHERE)	15.-	-	-

IRAN-TEHRAN
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DIPLOMATIC STAFF	7.50	21.25	27.25
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NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 6.75 15.83 27.25

PAKISTAN-ISLAMABAD

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 9.00 18.72 17.84

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 7.75 9.69 -

TURKEY-ANKARA

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 6.44 11.50 13.38

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 5.47 11.50 13.38

ISTANBUL

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 9.50 16.55 21.31

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 8.05 12.82 21.31

IZMIR

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 6.40 12.53 12.39

TO 14.43

(ACCORDING TO
SEASON)

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 5.47

UNITED KINGDOM-LONDON

DIPLOMATIC STAFF: 7.25 16.55 21.31

COUNSELLOR

OTHER DIPLOMATIC STAFF 7.25 12.60 21.31

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 6.00 10.30 21.31

UNITED STATES-

WASHINGTON/NEW YORK

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 9.00 22.28 20.81

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 7.75 18.94 20.81

ELSEWHERE: BRUSSELS

DIPLOMATIC STAFF 6.75 18.56 24.78

NON-DIPLOMATIC STAFF 5.25 13.92 24.78

2. BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE SECRETARIAT BELIEVES THAT
CENTO RATES OF SUBSISTENCE DO NOT ACCURATELY REFLECT THE COST
OF LIVING AND THAT THEY ARE OUT OF LINE WITH THE RATES PAID BY
MEMBER COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, THE SECRETARIAT HAS REQUESTED
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THE BAC TO RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING TO THE COUNCIL OF
DEPUTIES:

A. THAT CENTO RATES SHOULD, IN PRINCIPLE, FOLLOW UK RATES AND,
WHEN UK RATES CHANGE, CENTO RATES SHOULD FOLLOW SUIT (NOTE: UK
SUBSISTENCE RATES ARE USED FOR MTCF AND MSF PURPOSES ALREADY
AND ARE NEITHER THE HIGHEST NOR THE LOWEST GIVEN BY MEMBER
COUNTRIES TO THEIR OWN OFFICERS. THE UK FOREIGN SERVICE

HAS AN EXTENSIVE INSPECTION SYSTEM AND ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FROM TIME TO TIME TO INCREASE OR DECREASE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES AS THE NEED ARISES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL COST OF LIVING-- PLUS THE SECRETARIAT NOTES THAT THE CENTO BUDGET IS EXPRESSED IN STERLING, THUS THEY PREFER SUBSISTENCE RATES TO BE EXPRESSED IN STERLING);

B. WHEN THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE UK RATES FOR ANY POST AS A RESULT OF AN INSPECTION OR COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT, CENTO RATES SHOULD BE CHANGED ACCORDINGLY, SUBJECT TO THE FORMAL APPROVAL OF BAC;

C. THAT THE CURRENT TEXT OF SECTION A OF APPENDIX VIII OF CENTO STAFF REGULATIONS BE REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING NEW TEXT WITH EFFECT FROM MARCH 1, 1976:

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 /013 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 ANKARA 6997

FOR NEA/RA AND IO/OIC

SECRETARY GENERAL 35.- (EVERYWHERE)
(IN POUNDS)

GRADES 7-10 GRADES 1-6
(IN POUNDS) (IN POUNDS)

IRAN-TEHRAN	21.25	15.83
ELSEWHERE	14.00	10.00

PAKISTAN-ISLAMABAD

RAWALPINDI

KARACHI	18.72	9.69
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ELSEWHERE 12.00 8.00

UNITED KINGDOM-LONDON 16.55 10.30

ELSEWHERE 12.00 8.00

UNITED STATES-WASHINGTON 22.28 18.94

NEW YORK 22.28 18.94

ELSEWHERE 18.00 15.00

BELGIUM-BRUSSELS 18.56 13.92

ELSEWHERE 16.00 12.00

TURKEY-ANKARA 11.50 11.50

ISTANBUL 16.55 12.82

IZMIR 14.43 14.43

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ELSEWHERE 10.00 10.00

ITALY-NAPLES 18.00 13.00

3. IN ADDITION TO THE FOREGOING REQUEST, THE CENTO SECRETARIAT REQUESTS PAYMENTS OF THE ABOVE RATES RETROACTIVE TO MARCH 1, 1976. (NOTE: WE DOUBT THAT THIS INCREASE IN COSTS CAN BE MET FROM THE CURRENT BUDGET.)

4. THE U.K. HAS AGREED TO THE FOREGOING CENTO REQUEST, INCLUDING THE RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS ASPECT, FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS: IT IS PEGGED TO THE BRITISH SYSTEM OF RATES ESTABLISHED BY THEIR ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES; IT REGARDS THE PROPOSAL AS HIGHLY ECONOMICAL NOTING THAT IT IS ALREADY OUT OF DATE; THE PROPOSAL IS QUOTED IN STERLING WHICH HAS CONTINUED TO FALL CAUSING, IN EFFECT, A FURTHER ECONOMY IN REAL TERMS. THE GOT AND THE GOP HAVE AGREED TO THE CENTO PROPOSAL, BUT WILL PROBABLY ONLY AGREE TO A RETROACTIVE DATE OF JULY 15, 1976. THE GOI HAS DEFERRED ITS AGREEMENT PENDING THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE USG.

6. ON BASIS OF OUR ANALYSIS OF SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSAL AND CONSULATIONS AMONG MEMBERS, WE BELIEVE (A) THAT SUBSISTENCE RATE INCREASES ARE JUSTIFIED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INFLATION AND DEVALUATION OF BRITISH POUND IN WHICH ALL CENTO ALLOWANCES ARE DENOMINATED; (B) THAT THE PRESENT SUBSISTENCE RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE BRITISH AS REFLECTED IN PARA 1B SEEM REASONABLE; (C) THAT FUTURE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE INCREASES BE MADE SUBJECT TO BAC APPROVAL RATHER THAN AUTOMATIC AS THE SECRETARIAT HAS PROPOSED; AND (D) THAT RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS BE DISAPPROVED. REQUEST DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE ASAP. MACOMBER

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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